

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An article to be worn about a wearer comprising:

a surface fastening system having a primary direction of load bearing, the surface fastening system including a first surface fastening element and a second surface fastening element, the first fastening element being joined to the article, the second fastening element being disposed so as to be generally in a face to face relationship with the first fastening element when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration to fasten at least a portion of the article, the first surface fastening element further including an effective dimension Y extending substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the article, the effective dimension Y increasing from a distal edge of the first fastening element to a proximal edge of the first fastening element;

~~wherein the surface fastening system has different levels of resistance in different directions to disengagement from the engaged configuration.~~

2-3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The article of Claim 1, wherein the first fastening element further includes a first edge and a second ~~[[first]]~~ edge, the first edge being offset from the second edge in the direction of effective dimension Y, wherein the first edge is longer than the second edge.

5. (Currently Amended) The article of Claim 1, wherein ~~the second fastening element further includes a longitudinally inboard edge, wherein at least a portion of the~~ second

fastening element longitudinally inboard edge is unjoined from ~~[[the]]~~ an under lying structure of the article.

6-7 (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1, further comprising a chassis including an absorbent member.

9. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1, wherein the article is selected from one of the group of an absorbent article, a diaper, a sanitary napkin, and a body wrap.

10. (Currently Amended) The article of Claim 1, wherein the article is adapted to form a pant-like article ~~and wherein each of the first and second fastening elements are releasably attached to form a waist opening and a pair of leg openings.~~

11-19 (Canceled)

20. (New) The article of claim 5, wherein the second fastening element includes a longitudinal edge and the unjoined portion of the second fastening element is disposed along a portion of the longitudinal edge.

21. (New) The article of claim 5, wherein the second fastening element includes a longitudinal edge and the unjoined portion of the second fastening element is disposed along the entire longitudinal edge.

22. (New) A wearable article comprising:

- an x-axis oriented along a waist of a wearer when the article is worn;
- a y-axis oriented vertically when the article is worn by a wearer that is standing;
- a z-axis perpendicular to the x-axis and the y-axis;

an xy plane defined by the x-axis and the y-axis;
an xz plane defined by the x-axis and the z-axis;
a yz plane defined by the y-axis and the z-axis; and
a surface fastening system including:

a first surface fastening element, joined to the article;
a second surface fastening element;

wherein:

when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration, the
fastening elements are disposed in a face-to-face relationship, lying in
the xy plane, fastening at least a portion of the article;
when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and
subjected to a first particular peel force, oriented in the xz plane, the
fasteners disengage; and
when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and
subjected to first the particular peel force, oriented in the yz plane, the
fasteners remain engaged.

23. (New) The article of Claim 22, wherein the first particular peel force is less than or equal to about 1000 grams.

24. (New) The article of Claim 22, wherein the first particular peel force is less than or equal to about 750 grams.

25. (New) The article of Claim 22, wherein the first particular peel force is less than or equal to about 500 grams.

26. (New) The article of Claim 22:
including:

a y' axis, oriented in the xy plane, of set from one side of the y -axis at a first particular angle that is less than or equal to about 60 degrees;

a y'' axis, oriented in the xy plane, offset from another side of the y -axis at the first particular angle;

a $y'z$ plane defined by the y' -axis and the z -axis;

a $y''z$ plane defined by the y'' -axis and the z -axis;

wherein:

when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to the first particular peel force, oriented in the $y'z$ plane, the fasteners remain engaged.

when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to the first particular peel force, oriented in the $y''z$ plane, the fasteners remain engaged.

27. (New) The article of Claim 26, wherein the first particular angle is less than or equal to about 40 degrees.

28. (New) The article of Claim 27, wherein the first particular angle is less than or equal to about 20 degrees.

29. (New) The article of Claim 26, wherein when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to a second particular peel force of at least about 1000 grams, oriented in the $y'z$ plane or the $y''z$ plane, the fasteners disengage.

30. (New) The article of Claim 26, wherein when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to a second particular peel force of at least about 1300 grams, oriented in the $y'z$ plane or the $y''z$ plane plane, the fasteners disengage.

31. (New) The article of Claim 26, wherein when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to a second particular peel force of at least about 1600 grams, oriented in the $y'z$ plane or the $y''z$ plane plane, the fasteners disengage.

32. (New) The article of Claim 26, wherein when the surface fastening system is in an engaged configuration and subjected to a second particular peel force of at least about 2000 grams, oriented in the $y'z$ plane or the $y''z$ plane plane, the fasteners disengage.

33. (New) The article of Claim 22, which is a disposable wearable absorbent article.